

A large, light blue recycling symbol (three chasing arrows forming a triangle) is centered in the background. In the middle of the recycling symbol is the official seal of the City of Austin, which features a shield with a red and white design, topped with a torch, and surrounded by the text "CITY OF AUSTIN" and "FOUNDED 1839".

Parks & Recreation Department Recycling Program

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Parks and Recreation Department (PARC)

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Austin Resource Recovery (ARR)

Zero Waste Advisory Commission June 10, 2015

Agenda

- Applicability of Universal Recycling Ordinance
- Parks Department Overview
 - Organizational Structure
 - Department Responsibilities
 - Funding
 - Current Recycling Efforts
- ARR Site Assessments of Parks Facilities
 - Partnership and Site Visits
 - Observations
 - Challenges
 - Cost Examples
- Next Steps

Universal Recycling Ordinance

- Chapter 15-6, Article 5.
 - Requires convenient access to recycling capacity for tenants and employees
 - By Oct. 1, 2017, all commercial properties in Austin will be required to have recycling
- City facilities are expected to meet the requirements
- Open space, including public parks, are **not** included in the current ordinance

PARD: Organization

16 DIVISIONS	
Aquatics & Athletics	Grounds Maintenance
Capital Improvement Projects	History, Art & Nature
Centralized Programs	Management Services
Community Programs	Marketing and Communications
Cultural Affairs	Nature-Based Programs
Facility Services	Office of Performance Management
Financial Services	Planning and Development
Golf Services	Special Events

- **STAFFING:**
 - 702 FTE
 - 1,272 Seasonal/Part-Time

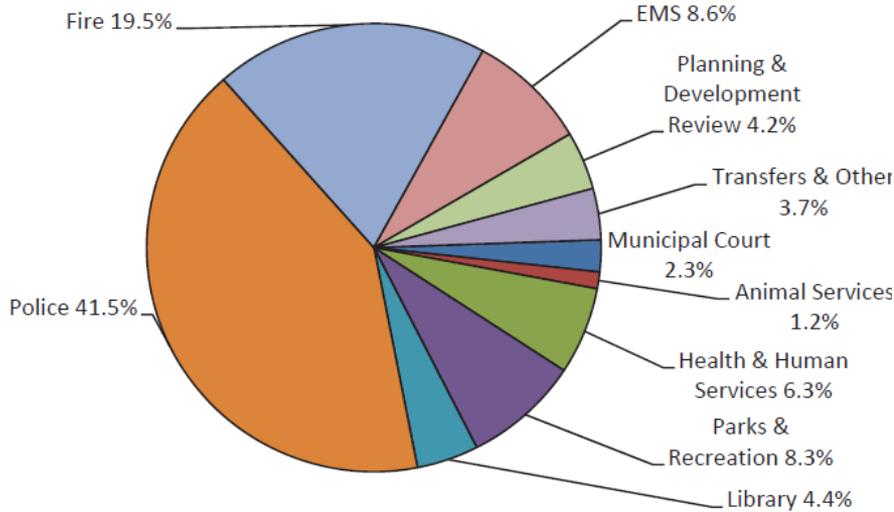
PAR: Responsibilities

- 271 Parks
- 29,000+ acres of parklands
- 358 Playground Structures
- 211 miles of trails
- 94 Sports Fields, including
36 Sports Complexes
- 50 Aquatic Facilities
- 41 Greenbelts
- 20 Recreation Centers
and 3 Senior Activity
Centers
- 11 Museums & Cultural
Services
- 6 Golf Courses
- 5 Cemeteries
- 3 Tennis Centers
- 2 Hillside Theaters

The purpose of the Parks and Recreation Department is to provide, protect and preserve a park system that promotes quality recreational, cultural and outdoor experiences for the Austin community.

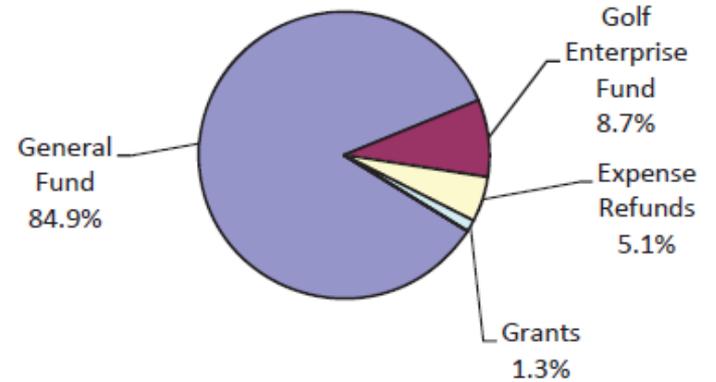
PARD: Funding

**Uses of Funds - General Fund
(\$854.0 million)**

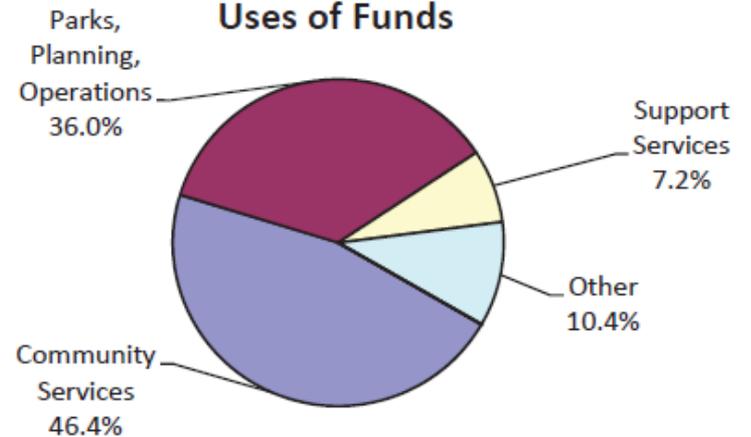


8.3 % of General Budget

Sources of Funds



Uses of Funds



\$83,462,865

PARD: Current Recycling Efforts

- All PARD Administrative Offices have recycling available for employees and patrons
- Recycling available at the following public facilities:
 - All Recreation Centers
 - All Museums & Cultural Services. Additionally, all special events are required to provide recycling during their event.
 - 2 of 50 pools, including Barton Springs and Bartholomew
 - 1 of 271 parks, specifically Zilker Park (limited)
 - 3 of 6 golf courses, including Hancock, Clay, and Kizer
 - 1 of 36 sports complexes have limited recycling availability

ARR Site Assessments

- ARR/PARD Partnership
 - Develop a plan to implement recycling in parks facilities
 - Prioritize facilities with greatest demand for recycling
 - Develop an estimated budget
- ARR Staff performed site visits of:
 - Northwest Municipal Pool
 - Asian American Resource Center
 - Emma Long Metropolitan Park
 - Zilker Metropolitan Park
 - Northwest Recreation Center
 - Kreig Field Sports Complex

ARR Site Assessments

- ARR Staff Observations:
 - PARD staff who are supportive of adding recycling service for patrons
 - Challenges with implementation due to:
 - Severely limited funding
 - Limited of staff
 - Limited space to contain support equipment
 - Limited space for dumpsters at some locations
 - Container requirements due to wind/rain/vermin, etc
 - Overlap in data collection

Cost Example: Northwest Pool

- One Time Costs: \$5,608
 - 6 Exterior Containers: \$418 per container
 - Installation Costs: \$50 per container
 - Patron support signage: \$500 for all signs
 - Custodial Equipment: \$2,300 to manage material
- Additional On-going Costs: \$11,320 per season
 - Recycling Bags: \$2,200 per month
 - Collection Service: \$630 per month

Cost Example: Zilker Park

- **One Time Costs: \$94,000**
 - 60 Exterior Containers: \$1,500 per container
 - Installation Costs: \$50 per container
 - 10 Patron support kiosks: \$100 per kiosk
- **Additional On-going Costs: \$51,840 per year**
 - Recycling Bags: \$3,690 per month
 - Collection Service: \$630 per month

Patron Support Kiosk



Next Steps

- Develop a master contract for the purchase of trash/recycling containers for PARD facilities
- Identify grant funding and partnerships with local organizations to purchase appropriate containers
- Adopt consistent branding for public space recycling; “Recycle On the Go” launching downtown in July
- Identify phase in plan to start with metro area parks, pools, athletic fields, and golf courses by next summer



Question and Answer

Jeff Larsen

Parks Grounds Manager



Jessica King, CNU-A

Strategic Initiatives Division Manager

